

District III Advisory Board Minutes
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May 4, 2005
7:00 p.m.

Colvin Neighborhood City Hall
2820 S. Roosevelt

The District III Advisory Board meeting was held at 7:00 p.m. at the Colvin Neighborhood City Hall at 2820 S. Roosevelt. The District III City Council member, Jim Skelton and seven (7) District Advisory Board members were in attendance. Ten (10) city staff were present and approximately twenty-three (23) members of the public, most of whom signed in.

Members Present

Jim Gulick
William Ward
Joann Hartig
Charlotte Foster
Judy Dillard
John Kemp
Jesse Sheffield
CM Jim Skelton

Members Absent

Matt Foley
Dewayne Kitchen

Staff Present

Vicki Mork
Capt. Allred
Lt. Weimeyer
Lt. Vaughn
Officer Miller
Officer Tate
Officer Wylie
Jim Armour
Rob Younkin
Chief Garcia

Guests

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order

Council Member Skelton called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Approval of Minutes

Gulick (Hartig) moved that minutes from the April 20, 2005 meeting be accepted and approved.

Action: Received and filed.

Public Agenda

1. Scheduled Items

No items were scheduled.

CM Skelton appointed Bill Ward as Pro-Temp

Recommended Action: Provide comments/take appropriate action.

2. Off Agenda Items

None were presented.

Recommended Action: Provide comments/take appropriate action.

Staff Presentations

3. Community Policing

Officer Tate, Beat 35 reported for **East Patrol**. He reported on the influx of gang graffiti. He explained they work closely with the Office of Central Inspection to eradicate it. OCI says they are not getting enough information when graffiti is reported. The following information is needed for the fastest possible eradication: 1) the exact location – the address, 2) on public or private property, 3) the color and size of the graffiti, 4) the surface it's on, 5) showed waivers used by Office of Central Inspection work order. He also warned about locking doors on cars. Don't leave valuables in plain view. And close garage door. Call 688-9331 to report graffiti. 831 S. Oliver red writing Blood upside down.

It was reported that neighborhood members cleaned up the abandoned Mexican bakery at the corner of Lincoln and Christine. There are numerous bags of trash to be picked up by Public Works. Also May 21st is Fabrique Neighborhood Association clean up.

Officer Miller reports graffiti problems in the South City area but he has been getting some great volunteer assistance from the neighborhood association. They are in need of paint and rollers. He explained he could obliterate "offensive" graffiti immediately on a temporary basis with follow up from OCI. He is requesting a more effective cable to bar entrance to Garvey Park. He is looking into mediation training. He also stated the Wichita Police Department is no longer towing off of private property.

A problem with semi-trucks parking at Wichita Mall was brought up, **Miller** says the property owner can have them towed but the proper procedure is to contact WPD within one hour of the tow to provide the vehicle identification number and tag number.

Clarification of offensive graffiti was requested; Officer Miller explained that would be vulgar cuss words and anatomically correct artwork. **CM Skelton** offered rollers and paint to Miller.

Officer Wylie announced a free self-defense class for women on May 10, 12, 17, 19 from 6:00-9:00 pm. Eddie Murdock may be contacted at 978-5278 for further information. All

four sessions must be attended. **Capt. Allred**, the new captain at Patrol East was introduced. He is a 14 year veteran with WPD and has been in Professional Standards and the Wichita Police Academy. Lt. Weimeyer, was also introduced he was recently assigned Community Policing for Patrol East.

Recommended Action: Receive and file.

4. Wichita Police Department

Lt. Vaughn, S.W.A.T. Team Commander gave a presentation on Taser guns. They are another tool for police officers and offer another choice for a less lethal weapon. The gun sends out two darts, propelled by a nitrogen canister. The darts, which are barbed to allow for maximum contact with a suspect, complete an electrical circuit. The 50,000 watt charge of electricity overrides the individual's central nervous system and incapacitates them. The technology is 97% effective and Tasers are currently utilized by over 5,000 agencies.

He responded to public questions concerning the effect saying 50-81 deaths have been reported but they are usually due to suspect being under the influence of drugs or alcohol or an over riding medical condition.

A citizen version of the Taser was recently seen on TV. A sheriff's officer related citizen models have been available for some time. Tasers cost \$1,000 vs. \$100 for a gun. **Lt. Vaughn** said a grant of \$200,000 has been approved to facilitate implementation of Tasers for WPD. He is asking for citizen input for policy development. The Department is interested in reducing injuries for Police and citizens during apprehensions. He said there were many expenses associated with the use of Tasers.

The Tasers are equipped with a computer chip and information can be downloaded from the guns regarding when they were fired. **Lt. Vaughn** explained that the Police Departments with abuse problems typically haven't had strong policies.

Council Member Skelton said he supports the use of Tasers for the Wichita Police Department and he anticipates less injuries and reduced lawsuits.

Recommended Action: Receive and file.

5. Wichita Fire Department

Doug Pickard, President of the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 135 (Wichita Fire Fighters) and Tim Carr, Secretary/Treasurer began their presentation with the introduction of **Fire Chief Larry Garcia**. Then they showed a video of a fire to describe the rapid spread and extensive damage done by the fire in a short time.

Pickard explained the issue of District III vulnerabilities regarding fire department coverage especially in the South City area. Funds were included in the 2004-2013 CIP budget \$1.8 million for 2005 and \$1.5 million in 2006 for fire station construction/relocation. **Pickard** called for addressing the void in fire coverage in South City as the area is surrounded by natural boundaries, which include train tracks along K-15 and the little Arkansas River.

These boundaries mean that it takes longer for firefighters to reach these areas and the video showed the amount of destruction that occurs in 4-5 minute response time. **Pickard** referred to a map which shows lots of green areas representing 4 ½ minute response time. He explained the gray areas of map show longer response time. He says South City has been ignored for fire coverage for the past 15 years.

Pickard explained the City Council has committed to improving fire service in the city. There were 1470 calls from the gray area and the overall alarm load for Wichita is 50,000 per year. The most effective solution for the area is a new fire house at Tulsa and Hydraulic would enhance response to Planeview and surrounding neighborhoods such as Dunham, Jennings, etc. neighborhoods. This proposed station would provide much improved and needed response to the entire area.

Pickard explained he's here at the request of CM Skelton to explain the need for improved service to South City. New stations are preferable to rehabbing old ones as today's equipment no longer fits in older stations. The 2005-04 CIP 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009 has funds for 2 stations per year. The money is there does the Council have the will?

CM Skelton reminded everyone that this Fire Department issue is similar to the drainage issues, he's only one vote and needs the citizens to speak up and support his efforts. **Chief Garcia** explained further saying the money in CIP is not attached to any particular fire station.

Recommended Action: Receive and file.

6. Public Works

Jim Armour, City Engineer began the presentation with the introduction of **Rob Younkin, Public Works Engineer**, who works on Capital Improvement Projects in Public Works. This project is about the improvement of Oliver Street from Kellogg to Harry Street. It's mainly a narrow two-lane road that carries between 15-19,000 vehicles a day. Proposed changes will make it into a 5 lane road with a turn lane in middle.

Armour then introduced **Jay Anglemeyer, with Mid KS Engineer Consultants** who presented the design concept for the proposed widening of Oliver south of Kellogg. He explained many aspects of the proposed plan including the elimination of storm water flowing over the road at Gilbert, it will be directed off the road through drains. Most new concrete at Kellogg will not be torn out. There will be some right of way issues on both sides of the street, there is a need for sidewalks on both sides of Oliver and the engineers will try to fit in both sidewalks and save the mature trees.

Median islands will be installed in front of Parklane, with sod and tree landscaping as budget allows. Both intersections, Harry and Lincoln will be evaluated and may be reconfigured, dual lefts proposed at Harry and Oliver as it has a very high incident of accidents. Also looking at other ways to improve intersection flow with out dual lefts. **Armour** has scheduled the project for 2007. It won't be started until Edgemoor and Kellogg and Woodlawn and Kellogg intersections are completed.

DAB feedback and questions included concern about right of way and sidewalk placement on west side; concern about houses ending up too close to Oliver – in both cases Armour said all appropriate considerations would be made depending upon outcome; did Harry and Ollies Club at Harry and Oliver contribute to high accident count -- not likely as accidents occur mainly during rush hours.

A citizen from **3449 Kincaid Ct.** expressed concerned about increasing storm water drainage from the rerouting of Gilbert and Oliver surface storm water. Engineer says same water and destination for water just rerouting water from across Oliver to under Oliver.

Project will be bid in January 2007 with a start date in March 2007. **CM Skelton** endorses project.

Recommendation Action: Dillard (Gulick) moved to recommend passage of the project including intersections evaluation and reconstruction as needed. Motion passed unanimously 7-0.

7. Public Works

Rob Younkin presented petition to pave East-West alley between Woodlawn and Mission south of Harry. The paving project will provide paved alley access to the nursing home parking lot and two residential properties. The nursing home requested the project. No resident owners signed the petition but the project met the criteria with 79.9% of improvement district area signed.

Gulick asked if anyone in audience was attending for this project but no one was present.

Recommended action: Gulick (Dillard motion for approval. Passed unanimously.

Board Agenda

8. Updates, Issues and Reports

Hartig report she emailed a housing issue on Funston to Vicki Mork. **Foster** asked about ice rink issues. **CM Skelton** explained current 15-year contract very unfavorable to tax payer. He wants domestic firm to operate it. He also reported he opposed IRB for Marriott Courtyard Hotel in Old Town as he did not feel project was worthy of the government subsidies. He felt the created jobs were not great enough to support tax-exempt status.

Foster asked if DAB 3 meeting could change to Monday. **Mork** explained that four DABs already meet on Monday night and if 3 changed it would be very difficult for City staff to present issues that go to all DABs. **Foster** also asked if 2 meetings could be held each month. **Skelton** replied the situation would be looked at.

Dillard commented on Onex request for \$1 million in Industrial Revenue Bonds; said she did not support sale of Century II or building a casino.

Sheffield said South City NA is recruiting volunteers to paint out graffiti. They are hosting a basketball tournament August 19, 2005 will be asking each association that participates to form three teams. There will be three age groups 9-12 yrs., 13-14 yrs, and 15-17 yrs. Start forming teams now. The finals will be held at Leon Park and want to have trophies and concessions. Flyers and article for newsletters will be forthcoming. Event is aimed at youth and organization will be soliciting funds.

Gulick reported Grandview Heights will hold National Night Out on August 7th at the Presbyterian Church located at Roosevelt and Mt. Vernon beginning at 6 pm. Jim Skelton is invited and there will be a booth for the Neighborhood Association.

Ward expressed concerns about insurance coverage for minority contractors, wondered if all insurance liability be on general contractors of projects or will minority contractors be required to have their own. **CM Skelton** wants to discuss the issue. **Kemp** explained categorize all the bids based on capacity. **Sheffield** asked **Ward** to call him.

Gulick asked what is definition of minority contractor? Minority, female, or disadvantaged status. **Kemp** said many issues not addressed by task force that's why it's on City Council agenda again. He said task force investigated some reciprocal issues and he thinks those arrangements need to be weeded out.

Council Member Skelton announced that the City of Wichita is interviewing engineering firms on May 16th for drainage issues. He also made a pitch for the National Association of Parliamentary saying the right parliamentary procedure can be very helpful to neighborhood association leaders.

Gulcik (Hartig) motion to adjourn.

Recommend Action: Address each item as appropriate.

9. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting for District Advisory Board III will be June 1, 2005 at Colvin Neighborhood City Hall at 7:00 p.m.

No Action Required

Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki Mork, Neighborhood Assistant

Visitors

Ken Lallenback	411 N. Main
Jay Anglemyer	411 N. Main
Gene Rath	411 N. Main
Cynthia Gardner	1133 S. Pershing
Francis M	1133 S. Pershing
Paul & Sandra Sullivan	5317 E. Funston
Lois Frend	635 S. Oliver
Larry Lamson	831 S. Oliver
Jeff Welenta	4601 E. Kellog
Lonny Wright	1020 W. McArthur
Gerald Pilj	2980 S. Clifton
Jocelyn Pickard	2911 Conamore
Debra Miller Stevens	3125 E. Boston
John Stevens	3125 E. Boston
Paul E. Davis	6417 S. Madison Ct.
Beverly Emery	4116 Whitney Ln
Bill Gress	1329 S. Bluffview
Elena Ingle	3608 Meadow Ln
Cordel Carter	